



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 16th MILITARY POLICE BRIGADE (AIRBORNE)
FORT BRAGG, NORTH CAROLINA 28310-5000

17 January 2008

Dear Paratrooper,

It is my sincere pleasure to welcome you and your Family to the 16th Military Police Brigade (Airborne). As your Brigade Commander, I want to be the first to tell you that you are embarking on an exciting journey that will take you all over the world as you join the most deployed Military Police Brigade in the Regiment. I can say this with utmost certainty as this Brigade has had units continuously deployed in support of the Global War on Terrorism since the fall of 2001. The learning curve at Fort Bragg is steep, and our garrison and deployment OPTEMPO is high. As a result, you must arrive both mentally and physically prepared to take on the most difficult leadership challenges you have ever faced. You are joining a team of professional warriors – the very best in the world.

The 16th Military Police Battalion (Airborne) is a unit that is rich in heritage. The Brigade dates back to the Vietnam Conflict when it was constituted on 23 March 1966 as the 16th Military Police Group and activated on 20 May 1966 at Fort George Meade, Maryland. The unit participated in thirteen campaigns to include nine counteroffensives and two consolidations during the Vietnam conflict receiving two Meritorious Unit Commendations and the Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm for their outstanding effort and dedication.

On 16 July 1981, the Group was reorganized and redesignated as the 16th Military Police Brigade (Airborne). Since Vietnam, the Brigade Headquarters has deployed around the world in support of XVIII Airborne Corps and on-going Army operations. In October 1983, the Headquarters was sent to Grenada in support of OPERATION Urgent Fury. In March 1988, the Brigade went to Panama in support of Southern Command's operation to secure US civilians and property and to protect the canal. In September 1989, the Brigade was sent to Saint Croix in the US Virgin Islands to restore Law and Order and protect property following Hurricane Hugo. In December of 1989, the Brigade again went to Panama, this time in support of OPERATION Just Cause and Promote Liberty during which the Brigade was instrumental in standing up the Panamanian Police Force. In August 1990, the Brigade deployed to Saudi Arabia and Kuwait in support of OPERATIONS Desert Shield and Desert Storm. The Brigade was later recognized for its hard work in the desert with their third Meritorious Unit Commendation. September of 1992, the Brigade went to Florida to assist in disaster relief following Hurricane Andrew. In September of 1994, the Brigade was sent to Haiti to support OPERATION Uphold Democracy. In January 2004, the Brigade deployed for one year to Iraq in support of OPERATION Iraqi Freedom where they were responsible for Detainee Operations and Convoy Security. Most recently, the Brigade Headquarters redeployed in November of 2007 after completing a 15 month deployment in Iraq during which time the unit again oversaw all Detainee Operations.

The Soldiers of the Brigade have consistently been sent first to world wide hot spots and crisis locations. Other operations that the Brigade units have supported were May 1981 Cuban Refugee Relief, Florida, Civil Disturbance operations at Seneca Army Depot, New York, rotations to the Sinai for Multinational Force and Observers Duty, Presidential Inaugurations, Joint Task Force Bravo in Honduras, Somalia, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, Bosnia, Kosovo, Albanian Refugee Support at Fort Dix, Pentagon Security following the attacks of September 11, 2001, Uzbekistan and Afghanistan in

support of OPERATION Enduring Freedom and Iraq in support of OPERATION Iraqi Freedom. Currently, the 65th and 108th Military Police Companies are deployed to Baghdad, Iraq for OPERATION Iraqi Freedom, and HHD, 503rd Military Police Battalion (Airborne) is deployed to Afghanistan for OPERATION Enduring Freedom.

At Fort Bragg, the 16th Military Police Brigade (Airborne) provides Garrison Law Enforcement and Force Protection to the Fort Bragg community and continues training in its combat support mission. The 16th Military Police Brigade (Airborne) stands to support the XVIII Airborne Corps and respond to any world wide contingency mission.

When our units are not deployed, they execute rigorous training management cycles that include both company and platoon field training exercises, live fire exercises, weapons ranges, airborne operations, law enforcement operations, and installation support operations.

It is imperative that you arrive here in top physical condition so you are prepared for the challenging physical fitness program. The XVIII Airborne Corps standard is completion of a 20-kilometer road march with 35-pound ALICE pack in less than four hours and a four mile run in less than 36 minutes. Your Soldiers, however, will push you even harder than that.

I am pleased to welcome you and your Family to the 16th Military Police Brigade Family. I look forward to meeting you and wish you the best of luck as you transition to life as a paratrooper.

Airborne! All the Way!

Sincerely,



John F. Garrity
Colonel, Military Police
Commanding